

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Dille-Probst House

other names/site number Colonel Otto Probst House / 141-597-36347

2. Location

street & number 520 East Colfax Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town South Bend N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county St. Joseph code 141 zip code 46617

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patrick R. Roberts 2/7/94
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
 State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 Signature of certifying official/Title Date

 State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/hotel

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN; Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

METAL

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1888

Significant Dates

1888

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

St. Joseph County Library

Dille-Probst House
Name of Property

St. Joseph County, IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6	0	6	2	9	6	0	0	0	1	4	0	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

3

Zone	Easting				Northing									

4

Zone	Easting				Northing									

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kimberly A. Dadlow, Cynthia J. Brubaker, Karen L. Kiemnec

organization Historic Landmarks Foundation of IN date November 16, 1993

street & number 520 E. Colfax Avenue telephone 219/232-4534

city or town South Bend state Indiana zip code 46617

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

street & number 340 W. Michigan Street telephone 317/639-4534

city or town Indianapolis state Indiana zip code 46202

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

Narrative Description

The Dille/Probst House is a two-and-one-half story Queen Anne style house with wood balloon frame construction and a yellow "Notre Dame" brick veneer (photos 1 - 5). The house has a "T"-shaped plan with the front or main section of the house as the body of the "T" and the rear one-third of the house as the wider top of the "T." There is a hipped roof covering the front two-thirds and a flat roof on the rear section. Fenestration is mostly consistent throughout the building, with all windows of a similar style and proportion. The Queen Anne style features are modest and include: an asymmetrical facade and silhouette, a corner polygonal tower, a steeply pitched hipped roof and texture contrasts between the brick facade and the pressed metal string course. What makes the house outstanding however, are the strong Eastlake influences it exhibits. The house faces north onto Colfax Avenue, in a mixed residential/business area, where other buildings of the same period still stand.

The Dille/Probst House originally stood at 334 North Hill Street, one-half block east and two blocks north of its current location at 520 East Colfax Avenue (photo 11). The owners sold the house to a nearby hospital in 1986, who planned to demolish the house for a parking lot. Local preservation groups launched an effort to save the building, led by the local Main Street group, Center City Associates (CCA). This group took great pains to retain the historic integrity of the house and relocated it in 1987 within the same neighborhood on a block that resembled its original surroundings. A turn-of-the-century brick commercial building stood next door on Hill Street, as one does on Colfax Avenue. CCA consulted with David Kroll, State Historical Architect with the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, and followed his guidelines for the design of a new foundation for the building. This foundation consists of a poured concrete floor, textured concrete block walls, and recessed glass block windows to form a basement the length and width of the house. On the east side, a steel basement door leads out to a concrete stairwell to ground level. Despite CCA's painstaking efforts, the house was not an easy sell as they had anticipated, and stood vacant for five years. In 1992, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana purchased, renovated and adapted the house for use as their Northern Regional Office.

The house sits on a lot in a dense urban area, similar to its original surroundings. The house fills most of the lot, but surrounding grounds were landscaped with sod, trees and perennial flowers. In order to accommodate the house's adapted use as office space, a

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

handicapped access ramp was added to the east facade (photo 2), and a seven-car parking lot was located at the back of the lot. Original Eastlake details are prominently displayed on the exterior. These include the oriental balustrade, turned porch posts and spindled porch frieze on the front porch (photo 5). Other original exterior Eastlake decorations are the incised detail above the windows and the metal string course that has "stylized sunflowers" as the motif (photos 1 and 2). The sunflower motif and balustrade repeat on the interior of the house; another Eastlake trait. All of the window openings, except for one round window at the staircase, are rectangular and, except for the tower and projecting bay windows, have segmental-arch brick lintels and concrete sills. All of the windows are original wood frame and, except for the one round window, have one-over-one double-hung sash. Under most of the segmental-arch brick lintels is the decorative incised wood panel mentioned above (photo 1). A simple boxed wood cornice with built-in gutters runs around the perimeter of the house. Both the front and rear planes of the hipped roof have a hipped dormer. There are two interior chimneys, one projecting out of the flat roof and one projecting up from the southeast corner where the two planes of the hipped roof meet.

The front facade of the Dille/Probst house faces north onto Colfax Avenue and features many of the Eastlake details (photo 1). The front porch reaches from the northeast corner of the house to the polygonal tower at the northwest corner of the house (photos 1, 2, and 5). The porch is elevated five steps from the ground with lattice work between new textured concrete block piers. Like many Queen Anne style houses, this porch has turned porch posts, but the oriental balustrade is rare, especially in St. Joseph County. The hipped porch roof shelters the original front wood paneled double doors with glazed transom. The same decorative incised wood panel found over some of the windows is found here over the transom under a segmental-arch brick lintel. The porch roof is framed by a spindled porch frieze. The aforementioned posts, balustrade, doors, window and frieze are all original to the house; the front steps and lattices were replicated.

Immediately above the porch roof is the string course that wraps around the main section of the house including the tower. The pressed metal string course reflects the staggered horizontal bar pattern in the porch balustrade, and features stylized sunflowers, a favorite motif used by Charles Eastlake (photos 1, 2 and 4). The two-story tower consists of five rectangular windows each with one-over-one double-hung sash and flat lintels (photos 1 and 4). Beneath the first story tower windows there are recessed panels with quarter round trim. The second story tower windows are bordered at the bottom by the string

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

course. The hipped tower roof is topped with a decorative metal cone topped by a ball.

The east facade is divided into three bays (photo 2). The first or northernmost bay has only one round window located approximately half way up the first flight of interior stairs. The center bay projects one foot out from the wall of the first bay, which camouflages a down spout in this location. This bay has four symmetrically placed windows, two on each floor, and all have the decorative incised wood panels. The southernmost bay extends out another five feet and the inside corner has a north facing entrance porch. The hipped porch roof is supported by an original single turned porch post. The handicapped accessible ramp leads out from this side porch with a balustrade designed to be compatible with but not duplicate the front porch balustrade. The house is entered off the porch by a north facing original glazed and wood panel door with a transom and the decorative incised wood panel under a segmental-arch brick lintel. A narrow window is located on the second floor above the door and porch roof. The rear or southernmost bay has four asymmetrically placed windows, two on each floor. The second floor windows in this rear bay and the narrow window above the side porch do not have the incised panels.

The rear of the building has six windows, three on each floor (photo 3). All of the first floor windows and the center second floor window have the incised panels. The back door is original and, similar to the side door, is a glazed and wood panel door with a transom and the decorative incised wood panel under a segmental-arch brick lintel. The back porch was recreated. One post from the original back porch still existed, but was too deteriorated to be used. New turned porch posts were milled to match the originals. The original balustrade did not survive, so the design of the new handicapped accessible ramp balustrade was employed.

The west facade, like the east, is divided into three bays (photo 4). The rear or southernmost bay has one window on the first floor with the incised panel and two on the second floor without the incised panel. This rear section projects five feet beyond the main section of the building and has a north facing narrow second story window without the incised panel. The center bay has a projecting rectangular windowed bay that, like the first floor of the tower, has inset panels framed by quarter round trim beneath each of the four windows. This projecting bay extends from the foundation to the first floor and has a hipped roof. It is flanked by a single window to the north and a double window to the south, both with the incised panels. There are two windows with the incised panels

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

on the second floor in this bay. The northernmost bay consists of the corner tower described above.

The interior of the Dille/Probst house is common to Queen Anne style houses, the dominant feature being the large, squarish entry hall with a grand staircase (photo 6). The staircase is broken with a landing at a ninety degree angle turning right, with a round window immediately before the landing. The balustrade continues the outside theme of an oriental design with stylized sunflowers. Despite the five year vacancy, the woodwork throughout the house including the staircase remained amazingly intact. Only minor repairs, cleaning and varnishing of first floor woodwork and painting of second floor woodwork were required.

The first floor layout is a functional and open floor plan. The use of central heating precluded the need to arrange the floor plan around fireplaces. In the Dille/Probst house the entry hall is in the northeast corner with adjoining main rooms to the west that flow together separated by original wood paneled and artificially grained pocket doors. Two small rooms south of the entry hall were bedrooms and a sewing room. The northernmost of the three main rooms contains the corner tower with all its windows in the northwest corner of the room. The middle room has the projecting windowed bay on its west wall. These first two rooms feature wood and plaster picture rails with a metallic finish, and permanent wood louvered shutters, both of which are original to the house (photos 7 and 8). Each window has three shutters that slide up and down in a track to provide a varied amount of open window area. The third room has two doors on its east wall, one to one of the small "bedrooms," and one to the current conference room. This third room also has a door on the south wall that leads to the rear entry hall, and a double window on its west wall. All window and door trim in the house are original, and these three rooms forming the main living area have window trim featuring corner blocks with an incised detail of the aforementioned stylized sunflowers. These three rooms (and the entry hall) also have early hardwood floors that were refinished. The original heating system used steam heat, and although all steam pipes and most radiators were removed, five radiators were re-used in these three rooms as tables in their original locations.

The conference room has original wainscoting on all four walls (photo 10). Originally the kitchen, this room was adapted as a handicapped accessible space (photo 9). A small butler's pantry located to the south was converted into a handicapped accessible toilet room. The door to the toilet room was moved and enlarged to meet handicapped

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accessibility code. The original trim was re-installed around a custom milled door that matches the original door. On the west wall is a door to the basement stairs and a door to the third large room. The original kitchen sink was moved to the southwest room that was adapted to a staff kitchen area. This room has a closet on the north wall and a door to the rear hall on the east wall. The rear entry hall leads to the back door, a former toilet room converted to a closet and the back stairs. A second door to the basement stairs off the rear hall was removed due to the reconfiguration of the basement stairs after the move.

The second floor plan originally consisted of nine individual bedrooms and one bathroom. Four of the bedrooms at the rear were converted to two larger rooms sometime before the 1950's. Two of the smaller bedrooms on the west side of the house were converted into one room by removing one wall during the recent rehabilitation. The bathroom, located centrally at the south end of the building, was remodeled in the 1930's, and has remained intact with only minor repairs to the tile work needed. The north bedroom was converted to a library by the addition of built-in bookshelves over the years between the 1920's and 1950's. Two of the corners of the bookshelves have unique sliding corner covers that serve as a hiding place for valuables. The circa 1920's art deco light fixture in this room was taken from the original dining room on the first floor.

The Dille/Probst House, despite its move, remains virtually intact. All exterior features are original except for the foundation, some porch elements and the handicapped accessible ramp. In the interior, the original floor plan, window, door and baseboard trim and wood floors remain intact. The house retains the majority of its original fabric with a high degree of integrity that serves as an excellent example of a late nineteenth century Queen Anne/Eastlake style home of an upper middle class family.

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Dille/Probst House is an outstanding tribute to a bygone era of local history. Built circa 1888, it was the largest and most extravagant of the houses in its mixed business/residential neighborhood (photos 1 and 2). This was the only brick home on the block, and very few brick homes existed in the entire area. Even more notable, though, was that this was not made of common red brick, but yellow "Notre Dame" brick made from marl taken from pits on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Another unusual feature was that this house contained Eastlake design details that are absent from not only the city of South Bend, but also St. Joseph County. The house was built at 334 North Hill Street in 1888 for local city councilman, Christian Dille. Following Dille's death in 1900, the house was sold to Henry Probst. The house remained in the Probst family for eighty-five years, until the death in 1986 of Henry's son, Colonel Rudolph Otto Probst, famed golf memorabilia collector. The house was then sold to a local hospital whose intent was to level it to make way for a parking lot. Local preservationists were alarmed and rallied to save the house from demolition. The hospital agreed to give the house to whomever had the means to remove it from the property. The challenge was accepted by the local Main Street group, Center City Associates, who moved the house to its current location in 1987. Without this intervention, the Dille/Probst House would have been lost to the wrecking ball. Despite its move, the house retains sufficient integrity to portray its association with the architectural history of South Bend.

The Dille/Probst House is highly significant because of the use of local construction materials, and can be evaluated within the context of residences built of Notre Dame brick in South Bend between 1846 and 1899. The yellow bricks used on the home are now commonly referred to as Notre Dame bricks, because they came from marl pits on the University of Notre Dame campus. Father Sorin, founder of the University of Notre Dame, arrived there in the early 1840's, and immediately noticed marl deposits at St. Mary's Lake. The University of Notre Dame's Local Council later stated that, "[The] White marl on border and entire bed of St. Mary's lake [is] found nowhere else in the vicinity of South Bend" (Index to Local Council Minutes [LCM], under "Marl and Lime," p. 386). This marl began to be used in the manufacture of bricks in 1843, and is what gives the bricks their yellow color. By 1846, the brothers had produced enough bricks that, "Father Superior [Sorin] informed the Council of a sale of 100,000 bricks at \$3 per thousand' --- council of Administration" (LCM, under "Bricks," p. 53). By 1867, after brick making had

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

become a trade in the South Bend community, the Notre Dame Local Council agreed that, "Brick yard to be rented' ---Local council" (LCM, "Bricks," p. 53). The following year, the brick and lime yards were rented out to a Mr. McCabe and a Mr. Cavanaugh (LCM, "Bricks," p. 53). The Stone and Pipe Manufacturing Company, incorporated in 1875, was allowed by the Notre Dame Local Council "to rent one acre of land for marl at \$500 for 3 years" in 1880 (LCM, under "Marl and Lime," p. 388).

In 1899 the Notre Dame Local Council recommended that the marl holes be filled. From this point on, the University of Notre Dame relied on the Belden Brick company in Canton, Ohio to provide a yellow hued brick to match the older buildings on campus (Br. Donald J. Stabrowski, C.S.C., "Brickmaking at Notre Dame," p. 6). The Belden Brick company was founded in 1885, but at that time was called Diebold Fire and Brick Company. In the 1880's, it is unlikely that a home builder would have hauled bricks from Canton, Ohio to Indiana, especially ones from a fledgling business, so the bricks used on the Dille/Probst House were probably attained from McCabe, Cavanaugh, or Stone and Pipe Manufacturing Company.

These Notre Dame bricks were used on many of the buildings on the Notre Dame campus, a few South Bend commercial buildings and churches, and even for sidewalks. There appear to be remnants of a Notre Dame brick sidewalk only one block north of the Dille/Probst House. These bricks were available to the public between 1846 and 1899, however only a few residences remain that were constructed of this material.

The Dille/Probst House is one of only five remaining residences in South Bend that are constructed of this brick, and is by far the largest and most architecturally detailed of the five. The first of the five, built in 1850, is a two-story Federal style house standing at 720 West Washington Street (141-598-33111). This early example of a Notre Dame brick house is outstanding with its Federal style detailing, but is very different from the Eastlake style Dille/Probst House. The second is a one-story gabled-ell house, built in 1882, at 726 East Washington Street (141-597-35839). This house has typical Queen Anne style detailing on the porch and is smaller in scale than the Dille/Probst House. The next stands at 822 Frances Street (141-597-29269): built in 1888, it is a simple two-story Queen Anne style building with a 1920's porch. This house is the most similar to the Dille/Probst House. It was built at the same time in a similar style, with segmental-arch lintels and a two-story projecting windowed bay at one corner. This house is not, however, nearly as large or as finely detailed, and it appears as though the bricks may

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

have been altered, perhaps by sandblasting. The fifth house stands at 1136 Notre Dame Avenue (141-597-29164), and was built in 1899. This house has some Queen Anne style detailing, but has flat painted sills and lintels, and has been altered by a large garage addition to the rear. Again, amidst this small number of Notre Dame brick homes, the Dille/Probst House is one of two houses that are outstanding and the most notable of those built in the 1880's and 1890's.

In 1868, Charles Locke Eastlake who was trained as an architect but best known as a designer wrote Hints on Household Taste. He had no idea at the time that the book would go into reprint six times or that it would influence architecture in America as much as it did. Unfortunately, the style of architecture which came to be known as Eastlake "may be said to burlesque such doctrines of art as I have ventured to maintain," avowed the designer. He proposed that a piece of furniture should proclaim its use and be simple, comfortable, and rectilinear. He felt that the material should be honest and clearly expressed. What came to be known as "Eastlake" architecture in this country, however, was excessively ornamented with the products of the "chisel, gouge, and lathe" as Marcus Whiffen put it. Heavy turned balusters and porch posts, curved brackets placed "wherever curved brackets will go" (Whiffen, p. 123), were used with lighter incised panels and spindle screens.

The Probst house, a modest Queen Anne style structure with its asymmetrical facade and silhouette, corner polygonal tower, and steeply pitched roof, exhibits all of the features described above but on a more modest scale and therefore probably more true to Eastlake's original intentions than most American "Eastlake" houses. Built just eight years after the first copy of Hints on Household Taste was printed in this country, the Probst house features all of the elements normally seen in Eastlake's furniture designs. The wooden frames of the windows under the segmentally arched lintels are decorated with incised detail; the metal string course that divides the two floors exhibits raised knobs representing stylized sunflowers, a favorite motif used by Charles Eastlake; and the turned porch posts, spindled porch frieze, and oriental balustrade are all features commonly used by Eastlake (photo 1). Although the oriental balustrade was used on a few other residences in South Bend, and obviously there are many examples of homes with turned porch posts, the combination of decorations and the use of the paneled, knobbed string course and incised panels are not exhibited on any other building in South Bend or St. Joseph County.

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Dille/Probst House, St. Joseph County, Indiana

Prior to the death of Colonel Otto Probst, this house enjoyed the luxury of being well attended to for almost a century. It was built by a well-known local politician, Christian Dille, who also was renowned as a butcher shop owner and real estate prospector. An immigrant from Austria and a bachelor, it is obvious that Dille's intent in building this house was to showcase his achievement of the American Dream. Upon his demise, the house was sold to another immigrant, Henry Probst. Henry also worked in the meat industry. His family was of upper middle income, but they did face some tough financial times whereupon they took boarders into their large house. Henry was adamant that his children be well educated, and sent his sons to the University of Notre Dame. His oldest son, Rudolph Otto, graduated with an engineering degree, and went on to serve in World War I in the Navy, and World War II in the Army.

Otto, who later inherited the house, went on to achieve fame through his golf memorabilia collection. He decided he wanted to learn the game in 1923, and acquired instructional books. As his obsession with the game grew, so did his collection of golf implements, books, magazines, and artwork. His collection was sold in 1973 to the Professional Golfer's Association (PGA) and is now housed in the PGA Museum in Pinehurst, North Carolina. Colonel Probst's collection has been described as "the largest and most complete collection of golf literature, equipment, incunabula, ephemera and memorabilia in the world." His collection even included such rare items as a 1597 Beerstratten painting of a Dutch golf scene, and books from as far back as 1556, one of which mentioned the Laws Enact of Scotland that prohibited the game in that country for a short time.

In combination, all of these factors contribute to the Dille/Probst House's eligibility for the National Register under Criterion C. This house was outstanding at the time it was built, and is even more so today. The use of bricks made from materials from the Notre Dame campus was very rare on houses, and of the five remaining houses made of this material in South Bend, the Dille/Probst House is the most notable. It is the largest in size, and the most architecturally detailed. The Eastlake details featured on the house are absent not only from South Bend, but also St. Joseph County. The oriental balustrade and sunflower motifs that are featured on the outside are carried to the interior of the house, and used on the front stairway balustrade (photo 6) and the corner blocks of the windows (photos 7 and 8). Despite the fact that the house was moved and then stood vacant for five years, there was very little vandalism, and the interior stayed remarkably intact. All of the woodwork in the house is original, including the wainscoting (photo

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10) and pocket doors (photo 8), and very few alterations were made. The alterations that were made were simply to comply with handicapped accessibility code, but were completed in keeping with the Secretary of the Interiors Standards for Rehabilitation (photos 2, 9, and 10).

Although the fact that the Dille/Probst House has been moved causes concern about its integrity of site, the integrity of the original site had been lost prior to the move (photo 11). The house was situated in the 300 block of North Hill Street and was the only remaining historic building on the east side of the street; the only other structure being a one story, concrete block car wash. On the west side of Hill Street, there are four older houses, all of which are covered with artificial siding (a billboard nearly obliterates the side of the corner house), two historic commercial buildings, a former gas station converted to a business, and two vacant lots. The two corners just north in the 400 block are the site of another parking lot and an industrial building.

On its current site, the Dille/Probst House is flanked by a residence on the west side and a small, turn-of-the-century commercial building on the east side, both similar to what existed near the original site. In addition, although a new foundation was constructed, guidelines indicated by the State Historical Architect at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology were followed in its design.

The Dille/Probst House is an extremely intact example of a modest Queen Anne style residence with Eastlake detail seen nowhere else in St. Joseph County. It is constructed of yellow Notre Dame brick produced locally and is the most stylistically significant of the five residences done in that material. Built two stories high plus a hipped roof, it stood out as the home of a prominent family in a neighborhood of modest homes. Rated 12 (or notable) out of a possible 13 on the St. Joseph County Sites and Structures Inventory, the building is a very significant and unique architectural resource to the area.

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"Bird's Eye" Map of South Bend in 1890. Milwaukee. Drawn by C.J. Pauli.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Part of Lots Numbered Ninety-seven (97) and Ninety-eight (98) as shown on the recorded Original Plat of the Town of Lowell, now a part of the City of South Bend, in St. Joseph County, Indiana, which part is described as beginning on the North line of Lot Numbered 97 at a point 30 feet East of the Northwest corner of said lot, running thence East on said North line 50 feet; thence South 132 feet to the South line of said lot Numbered 98; thence West on said South line 50 feet; thence North 132 feet to the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary description of the property is the legal description of the lot associated with the Dille/Probst House since its move to the site in 1987. The block was originally platted with lots running parallel to Colfax Avenue. Sometime before 1891, five smaller lots were platted perpendicular to Colfax Avenue. Each of these lots contained a residential structure by 1891, one of which remains west of the Dille/Probst House. The current lot for the Dille/Probst House encompasses all of one of the smaller lots and two-thirds of another with vacant ground between it and the brick commercial building to the east. The current lot is similar in size, configuration and density to the original lot.